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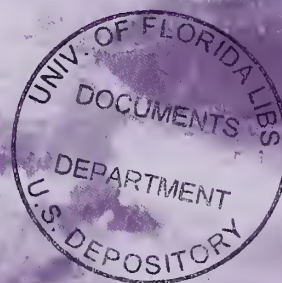
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# HALLMARK

united states army security agency

## RUNNING THE RAPIDS



S.A.J.



## What makes a Re-Up?

How can the Army continue its "aim to please" program for its new recruits, and still induce those already in uniform to stay? Men and women of the ASA headquarters communications center who were either mentally counting their recent reenlistment bonuses or mentally counting their days to ETS were asked, "What steps do you think the Army could take to encourage re-enlistments?"

### *Benefits are good in the Army . . .*

" . . . But if you think about it, you can get most of these same benefits elsewhere. I'm a careful buyer, and by shopping wisely, I won't spend very much more money on groceries than in the commissary. The Army has to offer other things besides 'bennies.'

"Less moves would be a help. If I were to stay in, I figure that in my remaining 14 years, I'd move about six more times.

"They should cut out the hassles, especially for the lower EM. Guys in the barracks still have to have inspection. Sure, you need a clean place, but they enforce cleanliness to a ridiculous point. You're never going to eat off the floor. No one answers the intercom because they're afraid they're being called for detail. Too many things are dumb . . . They shovel snow when it's still snowing. That's when guys start thinking 'maybe I should get out.'

"Doing away with pro pay is a bad idea. For most technicians it's really difficult to get a score of 130. It used to be 70 and that was too low. Why not make the bonus score 100?"

**E-5 6yrs**

### *Red tape complaints . . .*

"Cutting down some of the red tape should increase enlistments. It shouldn't be necessary to go through 10 people to get a request processed.

"They could also have less restrictions on single people. Overseas a married person can get more advanced pay than single people. I have to move, too. This is a small example, but it's not insignificant."

**E-5 5½yrs**

"Eliminate some of the paper work, it causes mix-ups. A good reenlistment offer would be a change in our WAC uniform. They are much too masculine. Also, revise the ARs so they aren't contradictory. The old and new ones still circulate."

**E-4 2yrs**

### *Tours are a big topic . . .*

"Offer longer tours. The longest place I stayed was 13 months; I'd like to get someplace where I can settle down.

"If they want professional people they need a new testing system and a new EER system. It's much too inflated now, the good worker comes out the same as the lazy guy."

**SP5 5½yrs**

### *Cutbacks hurt . . .*

"I understand that there is an upcoming bill to cut back the GI bill, some of the Army benefits and reduce the military leave to seven days. Then who would stay in?"

"A better choice of assignments would also be an inducement to stay in. And then the Army should guarantee that choice. If a guy wanted a border site, he'd ask for a border site. There are enough guys who like being in the middle of nowhere. It's not necessary to send the guy (without his wife) who will hate it.

"Maybe eliminate the 'once ASA always ASA.' Make it easier for a guy to transfer to TRADOC or elsewhere especially if he has a family. ASA family assignments are few."

**E-4 2yrs**

"Some people enjoy short tours, others don't. I wouldn't mind one or two short tours, but more than that is ridiculous. It gets a little boring after a while."

**E-6 4½yrs**

### *Make things in the Army more definite . . .*

"As long as there is a slot for a particular man in a particular place let him stay there for his whole 20 years if he wants to. They'd make a lot of people happier and save all kinds of money in the long run.

"Keep up the training. I feel that this is necessary. Send individuals on TDY (without per diem) for field training, but help him establish some roots."

**E-6 4½yrs**

### *Keep up the high standards . . .*

"Weed out the wrong people and make room for expansion. They say there is room for advancement, but there doesn't really seem to be.

"Reenlistments would be up if the Army established a better line of communication. Recruiters have all the enthusiasm and then they transferred it to us. I was all enthusiastic and then went to basic where the people there ruined it.

"The Army should think about establishing a Human Development type of schooling program similar to the Navy's. This school would last for three weeks and no one in it would recognize each other's rank. Everyone leaves the course with a better understanding of each other."

**E-4 2yrs**

### *Offer better educational opportunities . . .*

"The way the Army is geared, ASA simply doesn't fit into most Army schools.

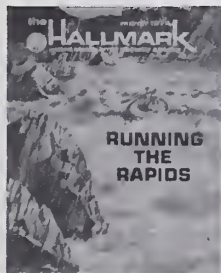
"It would also be good to test a guy before he comes into the service, see exactly what his desires are, and how far he will go to attain them."

**E-4 2yrs**

*Published monthly in support of U.S.  
Army information objectives*

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**Our Cover**—The standard honeymoon is thrill enough for most newlyweds, but not for an adventurous ASA couple who tried white water rafting.

Read about the thrills and chills they encountered in "Running the Rapids" on page 8. Cover artist: PFC Sarah Jones.

## ***Funny Thing about Car Pools***

Almost everyone agrees they're a great idea. They reduce traffic congestion, air pollution and eliminate pocketbook strain. In these days of gas shortages, it's almost a necessity to join one.

Yes, they're a great idea—for the other guy. But what about you?

Let's agree that car pools are not as convenient as driving to work alone. That way you can leave for work when you feel like it. You can use the car to get off the base for lunch. You can run errands on the way home, or you can stroll out at noon to caress the chrome strips on your new car or nap in your camper.

But you've got no business getting to work late, so departing time will not differ significantly, whether car pooling or not. When it's your turn to drive, you can enjoy going out to lunch without it becoming commonplace. Consider running your errands on your driving day. Caressing your chrome strips tends to tarnish them.

Car pools are not all that inconvenient, but if you don't like that idea, why not consider walking or bicycling?

While you are considering these options, also consider that you will be helping to reduce pollution, save money, save gas, and above all—don't forget that driving is a drain on your emotions. Does anyone get a lift from driving in rush hour traffic?

Winner of 3 Blue Pencil Awards from the Federal Editors Association as one of the best Government Publications produced in 1970, 1971 and 1972.

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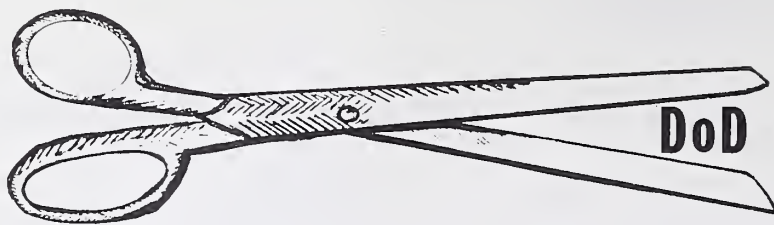
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## What you should know about



## DoD Manpower Cuts

*To set in perspective recent news stories regarding future reductions in DoD, The Hallmark publishes the following statement made by Mr. William Valdes, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Civilian Personnel Policy). This subject is significant in that USASA will ultimately be affected by the DoD wide changes he discusses. To what degree will depend upon how much can be accomplished through normal attrition and cancellation of vacant positions.*

Beginning in January 1973, the Army saw a restructuring and reorganization of its commands. This was followed in April by another announcement by the Secretary of Defense of a realignment of Army, Navy and Air Force installations. Both of these actions eliminated, or resulted in the transfer of, approximately 50,000 civilian positions.

Mr. Valdes said he hesitated to give advice to those facing the prospects of losing their jobs as a result of base closures "... because this is a very personal, and often quite a traumatic experience. It impacts on different people in different ways, depending upon their skills, ages, family locations and family situations.

"It reminds me of the old saying, 'We all have strength to bear our neighbor's burdens.' However, we do recognize this is a problem for many people, and they have to make the decisions based upon the way they see things."

He noted that the nature of the Defense Department's mission results in a fluctuation in its manpower needs. As an example, he referred to the Department's civilian personnel buildups for wars and reductions at the end of wars—specifically mentioning World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

"While we can't avoid these changes," Mr. Valdes said, "we can, in making them, consider the individuals and take steps to minimize the impact. In fact, there are a number of things we do with this objective in mind."

He emphasized that when the Defense Department closes an installation, "it is not closed overnight." It is phased out over a period of time—normally anywhere from six months to two years. "And, we use attrition and employment decreases to bring down the employment levels and create employment opportunities."

If the job is located in another location, the Department pays the individual's transportation expenses, helps him with the cost of selling his home, and moves his

whole household—as well as offering him a number of other things, he said.

Mr. Valdes then offered "... three general points for people to consider when making a decision, based upon experience over the years:

- *First, don't panic.* Bases are not closed overnight. The first announcement of a base closure comes as a shock, but, after it is announced, there is ample time to consider options and make reasonable decisions.
- *Second, be realistic.* Some people never get past the initial shock and engage in wishful thinking that 'maybe this decision is going to be reversed and the base won't close,' and lose a lot of good job opportunities by waiting until the very last minute. At that time, a lot of potential placement possibilities have gone by.
- *Third, don't limit yourself more than is absolutely necessary.* At least give careful consideration to the possibility of moving to another location where there is a good job. And, don't limit your options anymore than you feel that you absolutely have to."

Placing somewhat brighter light on the Defense RIF (Reduction-in-Force) picture, Mr. Valdes cited the April 17 base closure announcement as an example. "The machinery we put into action began on April 18. The Secretary of Defense immediately placed restrictions on filling vacancies at all Defense bases in the United States. This had the effect of stockpiling vacancies in which we could place employees who were being laid off.

"We then went to the Civil Service Commission and got authority for a limited period of time to permit employees not affected by the reductions and closures to retire early while this reduction-in-force was going on.

In addition, he pointed out that there is about one percent of the Defense Department workforce that leaves voluntarily each month—even during base closures. "One percent of our workforce is about 10,000 people a month," he stressed.

In conclusion, Mr. Valdes emphasized that the Department of Defense, despite its immense size, is not a heartless organization. On the contrary, "When you consider the very liberal severance pay and retirement benefits, early retirement options, priority placement entitlements within Defense, Civil Service Commission Programs for priority placement in other Government Agencies, and State Employment Service and Department of Labor cooperation in finding jobs in private industry the Department of Defense career employee faced with the loss of his job does receive considerable help and assistance."

In this era of tight budgets, many individuals in the Department of Defense—both military and Federal employees—may be affected by installation closings or a reduction in the scope of their activities.

If you fall into this category, there is a Department of Defense program which may aid you in your time of need.

It comes from a law passed by the Congress in November 1966—Public Law 89-754, Section 1013, as amended—which authorizes the Secretary of Defense to provide financial help to eligible homeowners. These individuals must be serving or employed at military installations which were ordered closed or partially closed or were ordered to reduce the scope of their operations.

### Limits

Not all closed installations are covered by the law. The closedown order must have been announced after November 1, 1964, and the reduction in scope of operations order on or after October 28, 1969. And, the homeowner must submit an application not later than three years after the announcement of the base closure or reduction action.

As a serviceman or woman or a federal employee, you may qualify for this assistance if your service assignment or your job is ended as the result of the closure or reduction, or if you are transferred after the closure or reduction announcement and the position which you formerly occupied will be eventually terminated by the action.

You may also qualify for homeowners assistance if you were transferred from the installation (or had your employment ended as a result of a reduction-in-force) within the six months prior to the announcement, or if you were transferred from the installation on an overseas tour, unaccompanied by dependents, within 15 months prior to the announcement.

At the time of the announcement, transfer, or job termination you must have been the owner-occupant of the house, or you must have left it after being ordered into on-post housing during the six months before the announcement.

## Some Answers to What You Do With Your House

## WHEN BASES CLOSE

Finally, to qualify for assistance, you must relocate beyond a normal commuting distance from the dwelling for which assistance is sought or be unemployed involuntarily and able to demonstrate such financial hardship that you are unable to meet your mortgage payments and related expenses.

Your residence must be a one- or two-family dwelling which you both owned and occupied at the time of the announcement, transfer, or termination of employment. In general, a trailer or mobile home will not qualify because it can be readily removed from the basic property.

The law permits certain benefits if your property has decreased in value because of the announcement of closure or reduction so that it cannot be sold on "reasonable terms." Local market conditions will be determined by the Government.

### Benefits

There are three ways you can be assisted. You must make the decision of which one to use.

You may choose—

- to take a cash payment to cover part of your losses resulting from the private sale of the dwelling. If you have sold your dwelling, the amount to be paid to you cannot be more

than the difference between (a) 95 percent of the fair market value of the property before the announcement and (b) the fair market value at the time of the sale (or the actual sales price—whichever is higher);

- to sell your house to the Government. If you choose to sell your dwelling to the Government, the amount to be paid to you cannot be more than 90 percent of the fair market value of the property before the announcement, less the amount of outstanding mortgage balances which the Government will take over. If the outstanding mortgage balances are greater than 90 percent of the prior fair market value, the Government will take over your property and your mortgage liabilities but it will not give you a cash payment. You may, under certain circumstances, be required to give evidence that you tried to sell the property to others before offering it to the Government;

- to be paid back for losses you have incurred or will incur as a result of the foreclosure of a mortgage on the dwelling. If the lenders have foreclosed on the property, you may be reimbursed for amounts you paid out as a result of the foreclosure. This payback may include (a) direct costs of the foreclosure and expenses and liabilities enforceable under the terms of the loan agreement for the house, or (b) debts established against you by a Federal agency. If these debts have not yet been paid, the Government may pay them on your behalf.

### How To Apply

Obtain a copy of "Application for Homeowners Assistance," DD Form 1607, 1 Jan 72, and answer completely each part which applies to you. Your application must be reviewed by a Department of Defense personnel or industrial relations officer, military or civilian, for verification of your service or employment records. He will mail it to the appropriate field office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers which administers the program on behalf of the Secretary of Defense. The field office will notify you when your application is received and what action will be taken.

(AFPS)





**It's too bad**—but Project Transition will soon be ended. All projects must be ended on or before May 31.

The training program began in February, 1968, to provide soon-to-be civilians with a marketable skill. Educational and career counseling will be

aimed at training and motivating the soldier to make him more productive within the Army mission.

From the time a man or woman enters the service, opportunities for technical and professional training will be available. Your best bet is to check with your educational and/or career counsellor to see how you can take advantage of these programs.

**Vietnam Veterans Day** has been established by President Nixon. March 29, the designated date, is the first anniversary of the day when the last American troops were withdrawn from Vietnam and the American POWs were freed.



**More green stuff** could be coming your way if you are stationed in one of the 17 countries affected by a recent Pentagon Per Diem Committee announcement.

Routine surveys of travel, housing and living costs established allowances in some areas, reduced allowances in others, while in some places, the allowance was increased.

The areas affected by the change which will become effective November 2 are: Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Finland, Greece, Hong Kong, Ireland, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, New Zealand, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, Uganda and the United Kingdom.

**Hospital costs** seem to get more exorbitant every day, and CHAMPUS costs are no exception.

The inpatient dependent medical care per diem rate has been increased from 75¢ a day to \$3.50 a day. This rate increase also affects the cost-share requirement for dependents of active duty members, but the impact of the change will not be felt by patients using CHAMPUS who are hospitalized for seven days or less.

Additional per diem changes will be considered annually based upon average military pay increases.

**Good news travels fast**—Inflation, inflation, deflation? The Army and Air Force Exchange Service has some good news. The AAFES line of low-priced merchandise

has been expanded and further widening of money saving ideas has become a priority project in all exchanges worldwide.

The program is especially aimed at the budgets of lower paid single and married service personnel. But saving money holds top priority in almost any household, so here's an extra cheer to AAFES!



**Overweight?** If you have any sense you can save your dollars.

Many active duty soldiers are being charged large amounts of money for shipping personal property in excess of their weight allowances.

Excess property can cost from 30¢ to \$1 or more per pound depending on the distance shipped and the means of shipment.

**New Deadline** for the Survival Benefit Plan has been extended to March 20, 1974. An individual who retired before September 21, 1972 can elect to purchase an annuity for his widow or children through a small deduction in his retired pay.

Retirees who have not received information on the program should contact the Department from which they receive their pay.



**Sign here folks** and you will become a full fledged, super-special member of the National Military Intelligence Association.

The Association Charter dated January 1, 1974, states three objectives:

- To provide a means of exchange of ideas and information between members.
- To provide for professional enhancement of members.
- To provide a public outlet for information regarding the profession.

The association, whose headquarters is at Sierra Vista, Arizona, will face a need for a professional group broad enough to encompass all the diverse aspects of the Military Intelligence profession.

The association is open to anyone who has a bonafide interest in the Military Intelligence field. Potential members do not have to be currently assigned to the MI branch.

Anyone interested in further information or applications for NMIA should write: PO Box 518, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635.

# How to Check Out a Used Bike

A new rider who is considering buying or has recently bought a *used* motorcycle should be aware of several basic aspects of mechanical safety and use.

The first of these is tires. Tires not only show tread wear with use; they also crack and rot with age. Inner tubes exhibit the same faults; and tubes and tires should be replaced if they show signs of age or wear. Tubes with leaks around the valve should be replaced, and the inside surfaces of the tires should be inspected for rough spots that might damage a fully-inflated tube.

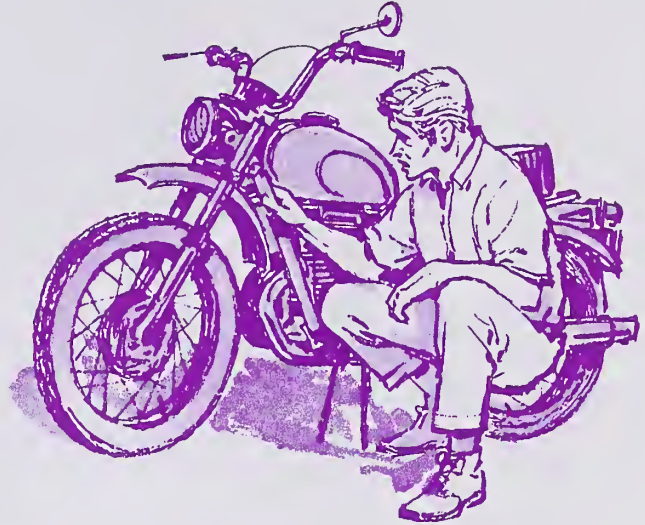
All cables should be checked for rusted, frayed or broken strands which could cause the cable to break under stress. Cables that exhibit such wear should be replaced.

The frame of the machine, including all welds and joints, should be inspected for cracks and bends which could cause loss of control at high speeds or under stress. Rims and spokes should be in good condition so that the wheels spin true. Forks and rear shocks should be checked to see that they provide the proper dampening effect and that they are not leaky or mushy. Wiring should be checked for frayed or burned areas which could cause short circuits.

Finally, a new rider should be conscious of the limitations in the design of his machine and ride well within its capabilities. A 90 cc machine, for instance, is not designed for high-speed highway use. It may be able to reach a

speed of 60 miles per hour; but since this speed is close to its top end, any adverse conditions (such as headwinds or hills) would put the rider at a potentially dangerous disadvantage in relation to the other traffic on the highway.

*(Reprinted from National Safety Council Driver Improvement Program)*



## A Fair Trade?

# Army Education Opportunities

Still trying to get that degree? The Army has available to qualified personnel education programs which allow fully funded collegiate study while on active duty.

The fully funded enlisted program (Chap 5 AR 621-1) provides up to two years full time college training for eligible enlisted personnel with a minimum of two years service, a high school diploma, a GT score of 120 or better and a minimum MOS evaluation score of 110.

While attending school, participants draw service pay and allowance and the Army pays tuition costs and related fees.

The program is designed to fulfill the requirements for an associate degree or a baccalaureate degree.

If an individual attends school for one calendar year or less, he incurs a service obligation of 36 months. He will have a 48 month obligation if he attends school for more than one calendar year.

There is also a program for officers (Chap 4 AR 621-1).

The Degree Completion Program (Chap 8 AR 621-1) is open to enlisted men and women with 2-15 years of service and officers and warrant officers with a minimum of three years service who can complete the requirements for a baccalaureate or

advanced degree within 18 months.

The program authorizes selected individuals a permanent change of station to attend college while receiving full pay and allowances. Participants in this program must pay their own schooling costs; however, they generally qualify for the G.I. Bill assistance.

The program obligates the individual to two years of service (three beginning in FY 75) for each year of schooling or fraction thereof, but not more than four.

For further information regarding these educational opportunities consult your local unit personnel office and your education center.





# pass in review

A roundup of ASA news from Hallmark correspondents

## Hawaii

### Security Group, PAC, Helemano—

The Security Group, PAC is the winner of the fourth quarter 1973 Personnel Incentive Award, sponsored by ODCSPER. FS Homestead, FL, and FS Sobe, Okinawa, were tied for second. The wall plaque was presented to Major James M. Hedrick, Jr. by Major Linn J. Schofield at the February personnel conference in Hawaii.

Also receiving awards for this program was the overall winner, FS Misawa, Japan. Second place went to USAG, Arlington Hall Station, and third place for the year went to FS Korea. Letters of Commendation, signed by MG George A. Godding, USASA Commander, were sent to each of the six unit commanders. Certificates of achievement, also signed by MG Godding, were sent to the following individuals:

Security Group Pacific—SP5 David P. Brachu, SP5 Lonnie W. Klierer, SP5 Kevin R. Carver.

FS Homestead—CPT Ben A. Hinson II, SFC Frederick R. Claassen, SP5 Richard E. Reimold, SP4 Ricky A. Yonkman.

FS Sobe—SFC Gary D. Calfee, SP5 Authur M. Stewart, SP4 Craig J. Weber, SP4 Jeffrey C. Nelson, PFC Virginia L. Norcross.

FS Korea (Special Award)—SP4 Stephen J. Nohl.

## Virginia

**Vint Hill Farms Station**—The James T. Davis Chapter of the Non-Commissioned Officer Association received its first contribution to its recently started scholarship fund.

The fund will be available to members of the local chapter and used mostly for college expenses.

Mr. Don Ely, manager of the Market Tire Company, located at Manaport Plaza in Manassas, VA, made the initial donation of \$20. Mr.



Standing in front of the Market Tire Company are from left to right, SFC Tom Adams, Mr. Don Ely, MSG Freeman Young and Mr. John Standish (Chapter Councilor).

Ely, a retired Navy Chief, has been giving discounts to NCOA members since August, 1973.

## Texas

**Goodfellow, AFB**—Staff Sergeant Terry L. Hipskind was one of 10 Goodfellow representatives honored as winners of the 1973 Distinguished Military-Citizenship Award at a mid-January San Angelo Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

A member of the ASA Det, SSG Hipskind is a language instructor at the USAF School of Applied Cryptologic Sciences. He was cited primarily for his work with the Boy Scouts and his church.

The sergeant received a plaque from the city, presented by Mayor C. S. Conrad and an engraved wallet. His wife was presented with a sheepskin rug.

## Germany

**Meissner Det**—The Meissner coed corps was the guest recently of a German Armor Unit stationed in Hessisch Lichtenau. The NCO Association of the 4th Tank Co, 2nd Recon Bn, was the host for the event, which included a guided tour of the unit's tank park, an explanation of

how armor is employed in combat and a hair-raising ride in a tank.

The guide was Feldwebel (SFC) Schneider, a platoon leader in the company. He also showed the girls the gas chamber and the obstacle course. One of the members of his platoon demonstrated the combat load which the German tank soldier carries into battle.

The Meissner maidens, SP4s Pamela Schmidt, Sharon Paredes, Mary Partridge, Martha Moore and Teresa Holicky, were presented a copy of "Panzerlied," the song of the German Armor Corps, as a memento of their visit.

Organizer of the trip was SP4 Andy Amos. CW3 Robert Siemienkiewicz served as the translator.

## Maryland

**USASA Support Group**—The Student Company proudly congratulates Sergeant First Class Jesse Berrong on his selection as Ft. Meade's Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year. An ASA careerist since entering the Army in 1960, Jesse is an outstanding NCO who truly deserves this honor. The Student Company will feel his loss as he crosses the Atlantic in March for an assignment in Augsburg, Germany.



# Wall Hangers

by R. L. Sowers

Seems as if almost any military office you might visit has at least one person assigned therein whose job it is to hang the multitude of important things on the office walls.

These highly sacred items are usually scotch-taped, thumb-tacked, nailed, screwed, or bolted on, and will include: a government calendar; chain-of-command diagrams of at least 3 commands; re-up posters; a suggestion poster; listing of phone numbers; personnel authorization charts; a mission statement; personal calendars; a haircut poster; an obsolete military pay scale chart; the latest policy statement from the commander; a CAN DO motto; a hand-scribbled note to attend a meeting held last month; a security reminder poster; a world-wide time chart so you can tell what the local time is in Pago Pago; a short-timers calendar; the telephone number of the typewriter and coffee pot repairman; a work schedule of all subordinates; a golfing schedule of all superiors; at least two letters of commenda-

tion from former commanders; and lastly, at least three of those wooden plaques from Vietnam assignments.

Of course, the size of one's office determines the total amount of things which must be hung—the bigger the office, the bigger selection of notes, posters, and charts.

Many of the wall hangers in larger offices add bowling trophies, golf trophies, and pictures of the little league team the guy coached in 1947. Even an occasional wife and kids photo may be found hanging amid the conglomeration. (I once observed an 8×10 of a blue-ribbon basset hound hanging beside a 5×7 wife who had evidently won nothing.)

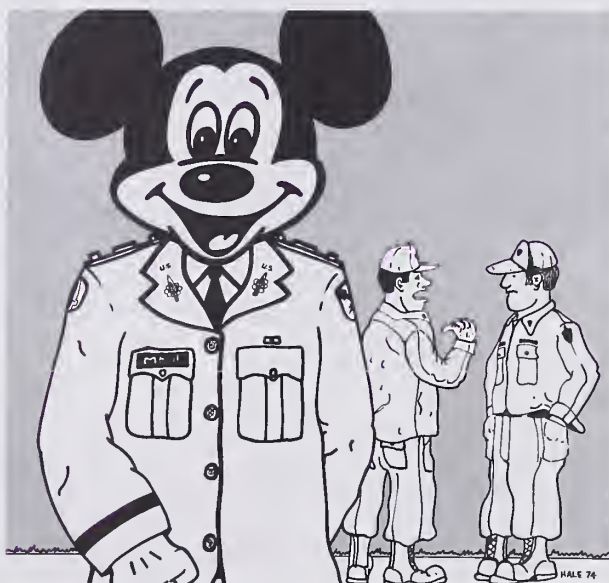
So if you're looking for an afternoon of fun and entertainment, visit any office building anywhere, and you will be simply amazed at the wealth of information the wall hangers have available to you.

Now where did I put those thumb tacks?

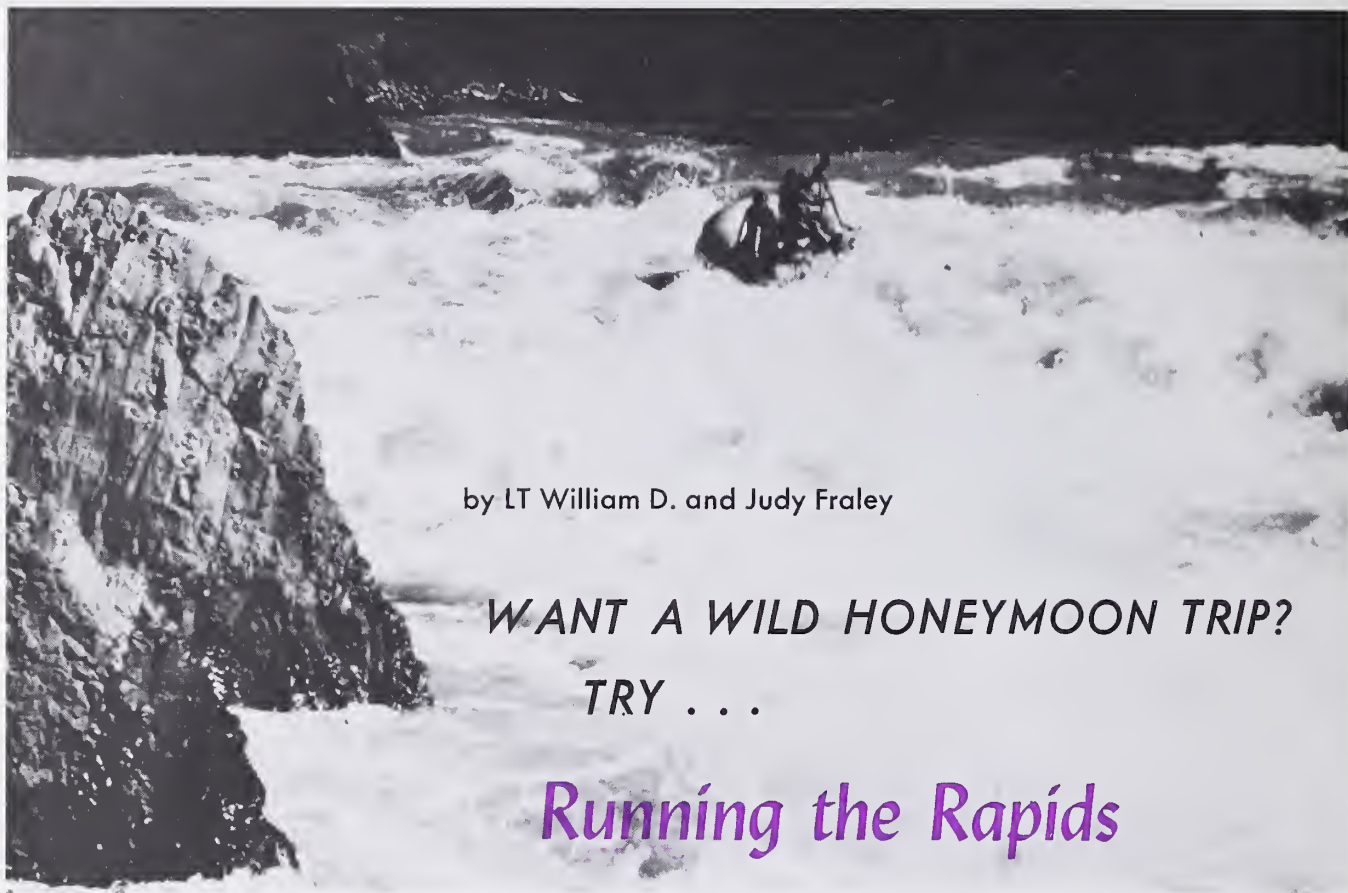
**"I think we have a place for you . . . have you heard of the ASA?"**



**"I've seen Mickey Mouse officers before, but this is ridiculous"**



*The December issue of The Hallmark offered an opportunity for creative individuals to see their works in print. Some of the poems sent us appeared in the February issue. The above cartoons were submitted by SP4 Stephen T. Hale who is stationed at Field Station Augsburg.*



by LT William D. and Judy Fraley

## WANT A WILD HONEYMOON TRIP? TRY . . .

### Running the Rapids

Following our engagement, my wife-to-be and I began thinking in terms of some special trip that we might take last summer as a sort of elaborate honeymoon.

We came up with several ideas such as Florida, Acapulco, Mexico City, and the like, but after more thought decided that all those places amounted to the same thing—browsing through shops, buying souvenirs, looking at the natives in their natural habitat, etc. This didn't excite either of us greatly, so we looked further. Then, ah-ha! My soon-to-be wife watched a National Geographic TV special on float trips down the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon.

We contacted the company spotlighted on the TV special, *Grand Canyon Expeditions Inc.*, and they sent us the necessary information. There were several different trips offered, ranging in time, distance, and parts of the river to be floated. We decided on the granddaddy, the entire

9-day, 280 mile trip, which begins on the upper Colorado near the Arizona-Utah state lines at a place called Lee's Ferry, runs the entire Marble and Grand Canyons, and ends in the head waters of Lake Mead near Las Vegas. The price was \$400 each. Expensive? Yes, but we would have spent that much or more going shopping in Acapulco.

We took a leisurely 3-day drive to Las Vegas, where our group of approximately 25 "river runners" met with our river guide, John Schrweide at the Royal Las Vegas Hotel on the "strip," Friday night, September 28. We were briefed on the trip more fully and received our waterproof clothing bags and sleeping gear. At 6:00 the next morning we were on our way by bus to Lee's Ferry, a six-hour ride.

Our first sight of the river at high noon was an experience in itself. It made us realize that we were actually there. It is the kind of a trip you

daydream about, fantacize about, but never seriously consider. But at one o'clock in the afternoon, we pushed off our two uniquely designed rafts and were on our way.

The power and force of this part of the Colorado River is incredible. Even at Lee's Ferry, where the water was "calm," the current would sweep you off like a piece of driftwood if you ventured out hip high. And cold! Forty-eight degrees cold! That water would put goose bumps on a rainbow trout and have him wearing his long johns.

For the next seven days and eight nights, we had eggs and bacon for breakfast (omelets this way, that way, and six pounds of bacon), lunch stops of sandwiches and snacks, and fabulous chef-like dinners of steaks, pork-chops, shrimp, beef-heavy stew, and even Italian style spaghetti just like mama-Vinetti makes. We slept under the stars beneath 5000 foot high cliffs. We visited several ancient In-



## Nine days of white water living—an unforgettable experience



Bill and Judy take a well deserved rest.



Holding on for 'dear life.'



Left, Bighorn sheep watched the adventurers ride the river.

Above, Anxiety increases as the rapids near.

dian sites and ceremonial grounds, walked up side canyons to look at 500 foot waterfalls, saw four very rare and beautiful bighorn sheep and a half dozen fascinating wild mountain burros. All this and a big blue heron which followed us for several days.

And then there were the rapids. There are rapids and there are rapids . . . and then there are these Colorado River rapids. I have floated several rivers, some pretty rugged, but they were all microscopic compared to some of the ones encountered on this river. The rapids are all rated on a scale of 1-10 by the Parks Service and those 8-10 ones were a sight to behold—ten to fifteen feet from crest to the bottom of the wave . . . after wave . . . after wave. There were no safety belts, no restraining straps, just ropes to hold on like hell to. And when we saw the 30-foot long raft ahead of us hit the rapids and completely disappear after the first wave, we gripped those ropes as if our lives depended on them, which I guess they did. If I live to be 100, I'll never forget the first BIG one on Sunday morning, Soap Creek rapids, rated 8-10 depending on the water level. Prior to hitting the rapids,

John Scheweide, as serious as any man can be, informs us that he WILL NOT see any cameras out, nor anything else, period. The point was clear, and when we "dropped off" the table top and found ourselves dwarfed by 15-foot waves and surrounded by noise so loud we wouldn't have heard a train go by our ears, it was suddenly worth every penny we had spent on the trip. A memory never to be forgotten.

Now, being a good American GI, no story would be complete without a "war story." And I've got one, and believe it or not, 'tis true. Approaching Crystal Creek rapids on the 6th day, rated a 10 flat, John decided it was time to start up the 40 hp outboard which is used to steer and control the boats through the rapids. Without this control we run the risk of hitting the 25 foot "holes," which would crumble even these boats, or one of the many "widow-makers" rocks, which are self-explanatory. A hundred yards from the rapids John gives a good, firm tug on the pull-rope—and it breaks! No big problem, however, as John simply calls to our other boat for its guide, Wayne McAllister, to use his motor to come get us. So Wayne, a little nervous,

pulls on his cord rope and it breaks! Both ropes at the same time! John's eyes grew big as golf balls and he yells to his assistant with him, "We have about two damn minutes to change motors!" A member of our party did check his watch and exactly one minute and forty-two seconds later, all seven bolts holding the motor have been taken out, a second motor (we carried 3 per boat) is dug out from underneath a ton of gear on the bottom of the raft and slapped into place, all seven bolts are replaced, and John pulls like hell on the rope about four times before it starts . . . about 20 yards from the rapids. We rescue Wayne and the other boat and at last all is well. Later, sitting on the shore at camp, John says to no one in particular, "And people wonder why boatmen drink."

If anyone is looking for a "different" kind of vacation and enjoys thrills and really adventurous excitement, my wife and I still have all the information about the trips and we would be more than happy to show you pictures, slides, and, in general, try as best we can to clue you in on a really good thing.

**Give it a try!**







Tanya Tellman



Elizabeth Benka



Carmen Coffing



Linda Cornelius



Diane Price



Kathleen McKenna



Beatrice Lee

## ASA Wife of the Year Named

A committee of ASA wives has picked The ASA Wife of the Year for 1974 from a field of seven nominees.

She is Mrs. Elizabeth T. Benka, the wife of Major Daniel Benka, and the Wife of the Year for Vint Hill Farms Station. She will be the Agency's representative in the Army Wife of the Year competition. The Army Wife of the Year will compete with wives from the other four services at Department of Defense level for the title Military Wife of the Year.

Elizabeth Benka has a productive background in community relations. For more than 10 years as an Army wife, she has been a vigorous participant in the work of various volunteer organizations, both military and civilian. She has supported and provided leadership for activities of the American Red Cross, Girl Scouts, Officer's Wives Clubs, and the Army Community Service at installations in the US and overseas. Since August, 1972, she has been a mover and a shaker in the Warrenton-Fauquier Jaycee-ettes, the women's counterpart of the local men's US Jaycees Chapter, which holds fund raising events to provide scholarships for local youth and assistance for the needy of the northern Virginia community.

While serving as ACS Supervisor of volunteers, Mrs. Benka worked with the Fauquier County Family Guidance Center in encouraging military personnel to serve as "Big Brothers" to underprivileged children in the County. Mrs. Benka also served as co-host of the 13th Semi-Annual First Army ACS Conference, held at Ft. Belvoir, VA last year.

The other ASA Wife of the Year candidates have shown the same dedication to military-civilian community service.

Mrs. Carmen F. Coffing, Field Station Augsburg, is "one of the little people who gets the work done and likes to stay in the background." She has been primarily involved in working with young people in the military and civilian community.

Mrs. Linda F. Cornelius, 504th ASA Bde, (Prov), at Ft. Bragg, NC, served as the sole representative of the military community on the advisory committee for the O'Berry Center, a state supported home for the mentally retarded and brain damaged residents of a 21 county area, including Ft. Bragg.

Mrs. Beatrice M. Lee, Field Station Berlin, has been the Publicity Chairman for the FS Berlin Wives Club. She is also the Reserve Manpower Coordinator for the Catholic CCD program.

Mrs. Kathleen E. McKenna, Support Battalion, USASA School Brigade, Ft. Devens, MA, has been actively involved with the Girl Scouts for many years. She is also Chairwoman of the Health and Welfare Committee of the NCO Association Auxiliary.

Mrs. Diane P. Price, Goodfellow Det, at Goodfellow, AFB, TX, has been very active in youth and teaching programs.

Mrs. Tanya S. Tellman, Support Group, Ft. Meade, MD, is active in the American Red Cross, Boy Scouts, and other community activities.

Serving on the ASA Wife of the Year Selection Committee were Mrs. George Godding, Mrs. Vernon E. Robbins, and Mrs. Lee K. Stikeleather.

CLOSE-UP

## Ms. Vicki Norton— Identity Prof

*"I'm not out to mold raving feminists from my students, I just want them to acquire a greater sense of self . . ."*

(Photo by SSG Jack O. Graves)



**T**he phrase, 'women's liberation,' has picked up so many negative connotations that if people must attach a label to me, I'd prefer being tagged a feminist."

So states Vicki Norton, wife of Specialist 4 Steve Norton of USASAFS Misawa, Japan. The young feminist, who holds a Masters Degree in Counseling Psychology from Western Illinois University, will be explaining her stance in much greater detail during a Women's Studies class being offered by the Misawa Education Center. She will be conducting this group study course.

Originally offered last term, the course covers such topics as women's roles in ancient and modern civilizations, theories of matriarchy, rape, sexuality, the classic view of women, prostitution, marriage, child birth and assertion training for women.

### Just a Housewife?

The course evolved as a natural outgrowth of the "People's Forum on Women," a semi-monthly informal discussion group which began at Misawa in late spring. When several Forum members expressed an interest in a class, Ms Norton offered her services,

having taught a similar course at a community college in Iowa last year.

The blonde Iowan becomes extremely irked when she hears a woman timidly identify herself as "just a housewife."

"The object of the class and the women's movement is not to get every woman out of the kitchen; it's not to keep women from being mothers and good wives," she emphasizes.

### Freedom is Essential

"I used to be a snob about the housewife-mother routine. Because I didn't feel fulfilled in these traditional roles, I mistakenly assumed that all women feel the same way. The freedom I demand to be a career woman is the same freedom I demand for women who choose the important task of being mothers and homemakers."

Husbands' reactions to the course ranged from "Oh, wow!" to "Gee, that's nice, dear."

"Steve views women basically as people. He has a keen insight into the ways women are channeled into certain social roles during childhood because as a man he had undergone similar conditioning. He especially

enjoyed the new books on feminism I brought home. We share the work in our marriage—we both eat, so we both cook, although I grant he is a better cook."

Ms Norton advises husbands whose wives show interest in the Women's Studies class not to feel threatened.

"I'm not out to mold raving feminists from my students. I just want them to acquire a greater sense of self, an increased awareness of themselves as women and the world they live in. To me that goal is no joke and I wouldn't call it junk, would you?"

by TSgt Grace Blancett

Reprinted from *Northern Light*, Misawa Air Base Japan



March, DoD "Military Voter Registration Month," marks the beginning of the Armed Forces' voting assistance activities culminating in the general election November 5.

Military voters from certain states should be informed of the requirement to register *before* election officials can send an absentee ballot for either a primary or general election. These States are *Alabama, Alaska, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nevada, and West Virginia.*

Other states either do not require registration for members of the Armed Forces on active duty or enable them to satisfy any registration requirement by (1) registering them from the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA—Standard Form 76) used to request a ballot for an election; (2) mailing State registration forms to the voter with the absentee ballot; or by (3) accepting an affidavit on the ballot-return envelope as a registration document.

Registration rules or guidelines are summarized below for each of these "pre-registration" States. While registration deadlines are listed for those States that have specified them, a voter may apply for registration any time during the year by writing to the appropriate election official. A registration application should be submitted well in advance of a deadline so that registration may be completed before registration books are closed—generally 30 days prior to an election (in Georgia, 50 days).

The FPCA is the form of registration and ballot request most generally used. After registering, the voter should submit another completed FPCA to ensure that a ballot request is received by the proper election official.

**ALABAMA**—Voters are registered by the *County Board of Registrars*, county of residence. To register, obtain a State registration questionnaire from your County Board by submitting a completed FPCA (indicate in item 6 "Request registration forms."). While no specific deadline for registration has been set, an applicant should complete registration well in advance of Alabama's May 7 primary in order to obtain, vote, and return an absentee ballot before the election deadline.

**ALASKA**—To register by mail, complete an FPCA, entering in item 6 "Request registration forms." Mail FPCA to the *Lieutenant Governor*, Pouch AF, Juneau 99801, so that application is postmarked at least 30 days before the August 27 primary or the general election.

**FLORIDA**—Voter registration is conducted by the *Supervisor of Elections*, county of residence. A completed FPCA should be sent to this official in sufficient time to complete registration at least 30 days before the September 10 primary or the general election.

**GEORGIA**—Voters are registered by the *Board of Registrars*, indicating in item 6, "Request registration forms." Completed forms must be received by the Board at least 50 days before the August 13 primary or the general election.

**KENTUCKY**—Voter registration is conducted by the *County Clerk*, county of residence (if a resident of Louisville, by the *Board of Registration Commissioners*). Send completed FPCA to the County Clerk or Board of Registration Commissioners of Louisville, requesting registration forms in item 6. Return completed forms at least 30 days before the May 28 primary or the general election.

**LOUISIANA**—Voters are registered by the *Registrar of Voters*, parish of residence. Send completed FPCA to the Registrar, indicating in item 6, "Request registration forms." Completed forms must be returned to the Registrar before registration books are closed, 30 days before the election. Primary election date is August 17.

**MISSISSIPPI**—Voter registration is conducted by the *City Registrar*, place of residence, or by the *County Registrar* of each county of residence. Send completed FPCA to the appropriate official, indicating "Request registration application" in item 6. Completed application form must be returned in time to reach official 30 days before the June 4 primary or the general election.

**NEVADA**—The *Board of Registrars* or the *County Clerk*, county of residence, will register voters. Obtain an "affidavit of registration" form by sending a completed FPCA to the appropriate election official. Return the completed affidavit to reach the official 30 days before the September 3 primary or the general election.

**WEST VIRGINIA**—Voter registration is conducted by the *Clerk of the County Court*, county of residence. Send a completed FPCA to the Clerk indicating in item 6, "Request application for absentee registration." This application must be executed and returned in time to reach the official 30 days before the May 14 primary or the general election.

*Details of other State election procedures may be obtained from your voting officer or counselor.*





*Diogenes Station—Construction of the new school building for the children of Bektesaga, Turkey (featured in the December, 1973 *Hallmark*) continues to progress.*

### Helping Hands

During the Christmas season a fund drive was held at Diogenes Station which netted over \$800. This brought the total contribution from the post (Army and Air Force) to nearly \$6,300.

The school is being built with the help of volunteers from Diogenes Station. Pouring concrete for the roof is a difficult job. Most of it has to be carried around the roof by two men hoists.

### Football

**Berlin, Germany**—Headquarters & Services Company defeated the Special Troops, Berlin Brigade in the Annual Berlin Brigade Flag Football Tournament by a score of 8-0.

H&S Co played all five games of the tournament without a single loss. Give coach Bob Hanson a pat on the back.

The championship game was played on a muddy field and in extremely cold weather resulting in a low scoring contest marked with many turnovers.

The game's only touchdown was set up when Special Troops was forced to punt from their own 12 yard line. A good return by Larry Newton placed the ball on the 33 yard line of Special Troops in excellent scoring position. On second down, Basil Hunt took a hand-off and raced the remaining 29 yards for the score. Hunt, the game's only scorer, then added a two

point conversion for the final points of the day. The game's Most Valuable Player? You guessed right—Basil Hunt!

H&S won it with a team effort which was the only possible way to stop a determined Special Troops team that had fought its way through the losers bracket and had considerable momentum going into the final game of the year.

### Soccer

**Meissner Det, Germany**—The Meissner Detachment participated in the first four-nation soccer championship tournament, hosted by the German 947th Communications Company, late last fall. The other participating teams were the British 226th Signals Squadron and the French Signal Detachment 36/351.

The Meissner team, captained by Colin Matchett, took the field against the Germans in the first game. Super-

ior playing by the German eleven and a contrary headwind conspired to keep the ball in Meissner territory for most of the first half. Superb goaltending by Ron Dvorak held the 947th to a 4-0 lead at the half. In the second half, with the wind at their backs, the mountain men were able to get into enemy territory more often. The German advance was slowed, only two more goals being allowed them for a final tally of 6-0.

It was British versus the French in the second game, with the thin red line of the 226th having an uphill fight against the French and the wind and trailing 3-0 at midgame. In the second half with the wind on their side, the 226th racked up two for themselves, but the French added one more, ending the game with a 4-2 lead.

Following a lunch served up by the German hosts, the Americans took the field again, this time against the British. The 226th took the first turn fighting the murderous headwind, to which a cold, hard rain was now added. During the first half, the 226th only hit the mark twice, Ron Dvorak making several goalline saves. The second half saw four more British goals. Meissner at last got its offensive plans together and some fancy razzle-dazzle at the goalline allowed Colin Matchett to slip in the lone American score of the day, which was applauded by spectators of all four nations. Final score 6-1.

The final game matched the German and the French teams. Again the elements, a bone-numbing rain and a driving wind, were the main factors in a game that only a few diehard spectators had the endurance to witness. The German team, less fatigued after an easy morning conquest, made the most of its scoring opportunities. The French, forced to cope with the wind, were not able to hold the 947th, who forged ahead to a 4-1 halftime advantage. The second half was a more equal struggle, with each team scoring once. The final tally was 5-2 and the Bundeswehr team was the tournament winner.



# \$TATE TAXTIME

**D**on't forget—all military personnel have an obligation, by law, to file state income tax returns. Anyone who willfully fails to file is subject to prosecution under Article 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

Don't rely on the widespread exemptions from state tax liability for income you earned in a combat zone during periods of wartime or just because the state did not attempt to collect tax from you. Times have changed. Most states have become increasingly hard pressed for funds and are now more willing to entertain suits to collect taxes owed.

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act protects members of the Armed Forces from double taxation by different states on their military pay. The Act states specifically that only your domicile can tax your military pay, providing you have not voluntarily acquired a new domi-

cile and you are in the state solely because of military orders.

Also, more than 50 percent of the states have some provision for either total exemption, combat zone and/or MIA/POW exclusions of military pay from taxation. Therefore, each individual should consult his local JAG office for the specific requirements of his state.

Most states have adopted the Federal Income tax law as a basis for state income tax procedures. They have relied on the greater scrutiny given Federal tax returns by the IRS which allows them to catch any errors.

Even though you may be exempt, a letter should be sent to your state of residence indicating the reasons you qualify for the exemption.

## Science & Medicine

### They've Only One Life

"Gee, my new contact lenses make me look a hundred percent better."

Sure they do, but your environment should dictate when you wear them. This announcement was made by the National Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

Hazards to eyesight that are commonplace in an industrial environment become even more dangerous when contact lenses are worn.

Safety experts say that contact lenses in an industrial setting are worse than no eye protection at all. Wearing contact lenses in place of protective eye and face devices can cause lasting eye damage.

The National Safety Council recommends that contact lenses be barred from industrial areas. At many military installations, the wearing of contact lenses is prohibited in "eye hazard areas."

Of all the major body organs

prone to industrial injuries, the eye is perhaps the most vulnerable, the safety council stresses. Examples of how dangerous contact lenses are in industry have been provided by safety experts:

In working areas where dust is generated, small foreign particles which normally are washed away by tears can be trapped beneath contact lenses. Besides damaging the cornea, foreign particles can scratch or soil lenses.

Wearing safety spectacles, face shields or eye shields with contact lenses will not prevent dust and dirt from getting into the eye.

Chemical fumes can damage contact lenses and irritate the eye, causing excessive tears which may dislodge one or both lenses.

Accidental displacement or loss of a contact lens may occur without warning, immediately incapacitating the wearer who may experience sudden change of vision, tears, light sensitivity and involuntary squeezing together of the eyelids.

If a worker wearing contact lenses is injured, the problem of removing them could assume serious proportions. Delay in removing the lenses when chemicals have been splashed into the eyes can make flushing the eyes with water ineffective.

As a final word of warning, safety experts stress that contact lenses do

not provide protection for eyesight in the industrial sense. Wearing the lenses instead of protective equipment could result in lasting eye damage.

### "Psssst! Over Here!"

They're all over your home—from the kitchen to the bedroom—and can be potentially dangerous to your health and safety according to the Center for Science in the Public Interest. These are the aerosol sprays. The list is lengthy from deodorants, hair sprays, car and furniture polishes, to weed killers, insecticides, and air fresheners . . . these and many more products are sold in aerosol cans.

Although no tests have been conducted, the CSPI (Newsletter, Vol. 3, #4), says that the typical aerosol contains about 70 percent propellant, usually Freon, which has caused everything from local skin swelling to accidental death. Heart patients and people with allergies are especially susceptible to aerosol dangers. Children have been killed by exploding aerosol cans and have died from intentionally inhaling aerosol propellants (Hallmark, August 1973).

The CSPI, located in Washington, D.C., contends that aside from acute effects of cumulative long-term exposure and synergistic effects of exposure, several aerosol ingredients are suspect.

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## Communication Problems

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We've got some real communications experts in ASA. In our business we must be able to pass the word around the world within a few minutes. We do it as a matter of routine using people and sophisticated electronic gear.

But let's consider another aspect of communications—person to person. Are we as effective as we should be in communicating with each other? Is there a closed loop between the transmitter and receiver which insures receipt and acknowledgement? Is there two way communication which insures feedback from the listener to the talker? Or is there a gap?

Our society is strong on broadcasting or disseminating information. Our technology enables us to do a remarkable job of putting out the word—written or oral. We are literally bombarded with information. We have a wide daily choice of newspapers, magazines, books, radio and TV programs. Those of us attending school are exposed to multi-media instruction. Each day there are bulletins, directives, letters, and miscellaneous papers for the military community to cope with.

Overwhelmed, swamped, or deluged with information, we find our problem is not with its origin, but its ending. We become desensitized, bored, or even disgusted with the flood, and sometimes we simply turn it off. So our weakness is with listening. How can we discriminate the essential from the trivia, the important from the trash, or the required from the unnecessary?

Certainly, the student is obligated to absorb information to meet required learning objectives. All of us are obligated to read and listen to authoritative sources to insure our knowledge of and compliance with Army or unit doctrine and procedures. Most of us want to learn more about the world around us and its current news.

It's a rare individual who does not want to talk and listen to his fellow humans.

And that's part of the problem. Are we really listening? Are we sensitive to the messages being sent to us by others—person to person? Is someone describing a situation or problem that needs correction, or maybe it's a simple cry for help?

The key to good listening is concern. We must care about the person talking before we really tune in to what is being said. Without sensitivity to others we cannot hear and respond.

That response is also important. Without feedback, the instructor cannot know the student's learning reaction. Without feedback, a supervisor cannot know his subordinates' understanding of or attitude toward instructions. We cannot know where we stand without feedback. Whether oral or written, feedback is essential.

Feedback can be as simple as a facial expression or body posture. We have rap sessions, council meetings, seminars, staff meetings, suggestion programs, open doors, and the Inspector General as official means of providing feedback. Yet there is no substitute for informal face to face discussion between two individuals to provide prompt and complete feedback. We need more of it.

We can go a long way towards solving many of our problems by careful, concerned listening and open spontaneous feedback. Let's try it!

**COL Richard Mosser  
USASATC&S**

**Reprinted from "The Fountainhead"**

## *Ideas and Opinions*

*"I share no man's opinions; I have my own." Fathers & Sons (1862)*



# ECOLOGY ENERGY ECONOMY



# keep cool

FLARE

FLARE

FLARE

# Happy St. Patrick's Day

Irish folklore tells us that the Leprechauns know where to find the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. Supposedly, if you can catch one of these little creatures, he can reveal it to you.

Waiting for a rainbow or a Leprechaun with a pot of gold is not exactly the best assurance that your dreams will come true. But a pot of gold **CAN** be yours without any rainbow at all and without the help of a Leprechaun . . . if you cultivate the habit of systematic saving through the Payroll Savings Plan.

Your pot of gold will continue to swell and you need never worry that some Leprechaun will run off with the contents. Remember, if U.S. Savings Bonds are lost, stolen or mutilated, they are replaced.

The truth of the matter is, if you ever did catch the Leprechaun and follow him, you'd probably discover a packet of U.S. Savings Bonds made out to Mr. Leprechaun himself.

